

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY Finland

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1. Activity in the Porkkala area during August was approximately the same as during the preceding summer months; defense work goes on at about the same pace, and training exercises have been concentrated mainly on artillery firing. New areas of activity appear constantly, and needed material and equipment are being brought into Porkkala. One train, for example, was ascertained to have carried forty new concrete mixers for use in the area. In fact, concrete mixers are in use over a widespread area, with the result that the concrete fortifications now are almost limitless and extend nearly to the border. The fortified zone is estimated to be five kilometers wide, at least in areas adjacent to roads and highways.
2. No large warships have been observed in the Porkkala waters, but numerous smaller craft have been sighted. On 16 and 17 August, for example, thirteen light warships - six mine sweepers and seven armored patrol motorboats - arrived from the direction of Tallinn. These craft came to within a 500 meter distance of Porkkala and on both days engaged in trial runs and other exercises. These maneuvers were in some manner connected with the Naissari fort. On the evening of 17 August another vessel joined the warships; this vessel resembled a destroyer, but darkness prevented definite identification.
3. Air activity has been unusually lively, but only light planes, flying singly, in pairs, or in groups of three, have been observed.
4. Highway traffic to the area in August has been brisk, due to the fact that increasing numbers of diplomats come to Porkkala on fishing trips. Long distance traffic, that is traffic between Viipuri and Porkkala, has been unusually quiet, and the August traffic consisted of but five trucks and one automobile.

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